

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method of organizing a workflow management system, said method
2 comprising:

3 identifying core functions;

4 producing information for each core function;

5 establishing core function units;

6 integrating said information into a coherent uniform presentation for use by said
7 core function units; and

8 instituting communications among said core function units.

1 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said identifying core functions includes
2 identifying external core functions selected from the group consisting of life cycle
3 management, acquisition, research and development, test and evaluation, in-service
4 engineering, integrated logistic support, program management and platform management.

1 3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said identified core functions are
2 external core functions including life cycle management, acquisition, research and
3 development, test and evaluation, in-service engineering, integrated logistic support,
4 program management and platform management.

1 4. A method according to claim 1, wherein said identifying core functions includes
2 identifying internal core functions selected from the group consisting of facility planning,
3 budget strategy and contracting requirements.

1 5. A method according to claim 1, wherein said identifying core functions includes
2 identifying internal core functions selected from the group consisting of facilities, budget
3 and contracts.

1 6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said identified core functions are
2 external core functions including facilities, budget and contracts.

1 7. A method according to claim 1, wherein said identifying core functions includes
2 dividing said core functions into external core functions and internal core functions.

1 8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said identified external core functions
2 are selected from the group consisting of life cycle management, acquisition, research and
3 development, test and evaluation, in-service engineering, integrated logistic support,
4 program management and platform management.

1 9. A method according to claim 7, wherein said identified internal core functions
2 are selected from the group consisting of facilities, budget and contracts.

1 10. A method according to claim 1, wherein said producing information for each
2 core function includes producing narrative description, procedural description and flow
3 diagrammatic description for each core function.

1 11. A method according to claim 1, wherein said integrating said information
2 includes issuing a manual, wherein said manual includes narrative description, procedural
3 description and flow diagrammatic description for each core function.

1 12. A method according to claim 1, wherein said establishing core function units
2 includes establishing external core function units selected from the group consisting of life
3 cycle management, acquisition, research and development, test and evaluation, in-service
4 engineering, integrated logistic support, program management and platform management.

1 13. A method according to claim 1, wherein said establishing core function units
2 includes establishing internal core functions selected from the group consisting of facilities,
3 budget and contracts.

1 14. A method according to claim 1, wherein said establishing core function units
2 includes:

3 establishing external core function units selected from the group consisting of life
4 cycle management, acquisition, research and development, test and evaluation, in-service

5 engineering, integrated logistic support, program management and platform management;
6 and

7 establishing internal core functions selected from the group consisting of facilities,
8 budget and contracts.

1 15. A method according to claim 1, wherein said establishing core function units
2 includes:

3 establishing external core function units including life cycle management,
4 acquisition, research and development, test and evaluation, in-service engineering,
5 integrated logistic support, program management and platform management; and

6 establishing internal core functions including facilities, budget and contracts.

1 16. A method according to claim 1, wherein said instituting communications
2 includes instituting at least one type of communications selected from the group consisting
3 of telephone, telefax, correspondence and electronic mail.

1 17. A method according to claim 1, further comprising distributing said coherent
2 presentation among said core function units.

1 18. A method according to claim 1, wherein said producing information for each
2 core function includes establishing teams, each said team being charged with producing
3 information for a different core function.

1 19. A method for defining and executing the flow of management operations, said
2 method comprising:

3 establishing plural units, each said unit involving a different core function;
4 formulating a manual which prescribes said flow both intrarelationally within each
5 said unit and interrelationally between said units; and
6 enabling communication in and among said units in furtherance of said flow.

1 20. A method for defining and executing the flow as recited in claim 19, further
2 comprising dissemination said manual to said units.

3 21. A method for defining and executing the flow as recited in claim 19, wherein
4 said establishing plural units includes establishing units involving external core functions,
5 said external core function units including life cycle management unit, acquisition unit,
6 research and development unit, test and evaluation unit, in-service engineering unit,
7 integrated logistic support unit, program management unit and platform management unit.

1 22. A method for defining and executing the flow as recited in claim 19, wherein
2 said establishing plural units includes establishing units involving internal core functions,
3 said internal core function units including facilities unit, budget unit and contracts unit.

1 23. A method for defining and executing the flow as recited in claim 19, wherein
2 said establishing plural units includes:

3 establishing units involving external core functions, said external core function units
4 including life cycle management unit, acquisition unit, research and development unit, test
5 and evaluation unit, in-service engineering unit, integrated logistic support unit, program
6 management unit and platform management unit; and

7 establishing units involving internal core functions, said internal core function units
8 including facilities unit, budget unit and contracts unit.

1 24. A method for defining and executing the flow as recited in claim 19, wherein
2 said enabling communication includes instituting at least two communication means
3 selected from the group consisting of telephone, telefax, correspondence and e-mail.

1 25. A method for defining and executing the flow as recited in claim 19, further
2 comprising formulating a policy for continually improving said flow, said formulating a
3 policy including prescribing the periodic updating of said manual.

1 26. A method for defining and executing the flow as recited in claim 25, wherein
2 said periodic updating of said manual includes changing at least one channel of said said
3 flow between at least two said units.

1 27. A method for defining and executing the flow as recited in claim 25, wherein
2 said formulating a policy includes adding at least one channel of said said flow between
3 at least two said units.

1 28. A method for defining and executing the flow as recited in claim 25, wherein
2 said formulating a policy includes removing at least one channel of said said flow between
3 at least two said units.

1 29. A system for performing workflow management, said system comprising:
2 a plurality of core functional units;
3 a manual for utilization by said core functional units, said manual defining said
4 workflow within and between said core functional units; and
5 means for communication within and between said core functional units.

1 30. A system for performing workflow management as recited in claim 29, wherein
2 said core functional units comprise external core functional units including a life cycle
3 management unit, an acquisition unit, a research and development unit, a test and
4 evaluation unit, an in-service engineering unit, an integrated logistic support unit, a program
5 management unit and a platform management unit.

1 31. A system for performing workflow management as recited in claim 29, wherein

2 said core functional units comprise internal core functional units including a facilities unit,
3 a budget unit and a contracts unit.

1 32. A system for performing workflow management as recited in claim 29, wherein
2 said core functional units comprise:

3 external core functional units including a life cycle management unit, an acquisition
4 unit, a research and development unit, a test and evaluation unit, an in-service engineering
5 unit, an integrated logistic support unit, a program management unit and a platform
6 management unit; and

7 internal core functional units including a facilities unit, a budget unit and a contracts
8 unit.

1 33. A system for performing workflow management as recited in claim 29, wherein
2 said means for communication include telephone, facsimile transmission, correspondence
3 and electronic mail.